

BellSouth Corporation
Suite 900
1133 -21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-3351

karen.possner@bellsouth.com

Karen B. Possner
Vice President-National Security
and Strategic Policy

202 453 4160
Fax 202 463 4637

September 11, 2003

By Electronic Filing

Mr. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: Annual Assessment of the Status of Competition in the Market for
the Delivery of Video Programming – MB Docket No. 03-172*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

BellSouth Corporation and its multichannel video programming distribution subsidiaries, BellSouth Entertainment, L.L.C., BellSouth Interactive Media Services, L.L.C., and BellSouth Wireless Cable, Inc. (collectively "BellSouth") hereby submit brief comments on the FCC's Notice of Inquiry (the "NOI") in the above-captioned proceeding. Specifically, BellSouth is responding to the Commission's request for updated information from local exchange carriers that provide multichannel video programming services (*see para. 43 of NOI*).

BellSouth remains committed to offering video services to consumers. It continues to provide cable service in 14 franchise areas in Alabama, Florida and Georgia.¹ In addition, BellSouth and DIRECTV, Inc. recently announced a strategic marketing alliance to offer BellSouth residential customers DIRECTV digital satellite television service starting in early 2004.² This alliance will assist BellSouth in continuing its efforts, announced in 2000, to restructure its wireless video service in order to focus on its core business, although

¹ The 14 operating cable franchises are in the following communities: City of Vestavia Hills, Alabama; St. Johns County, Florida; Miami-Dade County, Florida; Town of Davie, Florida; City of Pembroke Pines, Florida; Cherokee County, Georgia; Cobb County, Georgia; DeKalb County, Georgia; Gwinnett County, Georgia; City of Chamblee, Georgia; City of Duluth, Georgia; City of Lawrenceville, Georgia; City of Roswell, Georgia; and City of Woodstock, Georgia.

² See Press Release, "BellSouth® and DIRECTV® Announce Agreement to Sell Digital Satellite Television Service as Part of BellSouth Answers™ Bundle," released August 27, 2003.

Ms. Marlene Dortch
September 11, 2003
Page Two

BellSouth still provides video programming in the areas where it holds MMDS licenses and ITFS leases.³

Sincerely,



cc: Andrew Wise
Linda Senecal

³ See Comments of BellSouth Corporation and BellSouth Wireless Cable, Inc. in WT Docket No. 03-66, WT Docket No. 03-67, MM Docket No. 97-217 and WT Docket No. 02-68, pp. 2-3.